

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE(SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Late Arrival of Shramjivi Express At Delhi

3042. DR. PARSHU RAM GANGWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have issued any directives to ensure timely arrival of Shramjivi (Patna-Delhi) Express at Delhi on time; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) and (b). Instructions already exist to ensure punctual running of trains. Time to time, however, punctuality drives are launched and one such drive was undertaken for 7 days from 16-11-91.

[English]

New Line on Mughal Sarai-Son Nagar Route

3043. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to lay a third line between Mughal Sarai and Son Nagar in view of density of traffic on this route;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The project was included in the Railway Budget for 90-91 at an anticipated cost of Rs. 165 crores and the work has been taken up.

(c) Does not arise.

Cases of Food Poisoning In Chandigarh, Delhi and Gujarat

3044. SHRI TARA CHAND KHAN-DELWAL:
SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:
SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV:
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether food poisoning cases took place in Delhi, Chandigarh and Gujarat recently;

(b) whether these cases have been investigated and if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) whether samples of the food consumed were sent to the forensic department for chemical analysis; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE(SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) to (d). The information furnished by Delhi Administration, Chandigarh Administration and Gujarat Government is as Under: *Chandigarh Administra-*
tion

A total of 445 students were affected as

a result of consumption of biscuits. The case was investigated and the Chemical and bacteriological analysis of the samples showed contamination of biscuits with Chloroform bacteria. *Delhi Administration*

A case of alleged food poisoning was reported in the Press in the month of November, 1991. The Press Report stated that 14 persons were admitted to the hospital after consuming 'Balushahi.' The investigation revealed that it was not a case of food poisoning but a case of cheating by adding over-dose of sedatives in the sweet.

Food and Drug Administration, Gujarat

One incidence occurred in Baroda on 15.9.91 affecting 6 persons. No sample was taken as probable cause was consumption of 'doodhpaks' after 24 hours from the time of preparation

Vayudoot Service for Himachal Pradesh

3045. PROF. PREM DHUMAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any request from the Government of Himachal Pradesh regarding continuation and intensification of the Vayudoot services in the State to promote tourism;

(b) if so, the step taken or proposed to be taken thereon; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Vayudoot is at present operating to Shimla, Kulu and Dharamshala in the state of Himachal Pradesh. For commercial and

operational reasons, it is not possible to augment Vayudoot services to Himachal Pradesh, at the present juncture.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Cost of Homoeopathic Raw Material

3046. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tax on the raw material used in the production of homoeopathic drugs has been increased;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, and

(c) the details of the steps taken/proposed to check its price-rise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. There has been general increase in the price of raw materials. In addition, in the 1991-92 budget, Special Excise Duty was increased from 5% to 10% ad-valorem. This increase would apply to all raw materials used in the manufacture of homoeopathic medicines which are chargeable to Central Excise.

Under the Drugs Price Control Order 1987, Homoeopathic Drugs are not controlled for prices.

Extension of Trains Between Kasganj and Kashipur upto Mathura

3047. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to extend the passenger train Nos. 103 and 104 running